



Attorney Docket No. 06502.0018-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Continuation Application of:) Prior Application Data
) Serial No. 09/023,074
) Filed: February 13, 1998
)
MATENA, Vladimir)
)
Application No.: Not yet assigned) Group Art Unit: 2785
)
Filed: November 20, 2000) Examiner: LE, Dieu-Minh Thai
)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS)
FOR RELIABLE DISK FENCING)
IN A MULTICOMPUTER)
SYSTEM)

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Technology Center 2100

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please cancel all amendments and remarks specified in the Preliminary Amendment filed November 20, 2000 and prior to the examination of the above-reference application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 and add claims 14-26 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for preventing access to a shared peripheral device by a processor-based node in a multinode system, [including the steps of] comprising:
 - (1) storing at the peripheral device a first unique value representing a first configuration of the multinode system;